

REMARKS

The Office Action of 05/03/2004 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 were rejected for various informalities. These informalities are addressed by the present amendment.

Claims 1-7, 9-11 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Dalfsen. The claims have been amended to more clearly distinguish over the cited reference. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

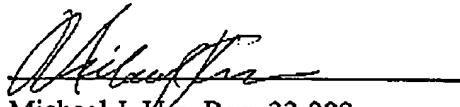
In particular, claims 1, 12, 18, 19, and 21 have been amended to recite a reconfigurable filter having different configurations including a linear configuration in which at least two rows of a logical array of registers are coupled together to form a single linear shift register, and a nonlinear configuration different than said linear configuration. Van Dalfsen is not believed to teach or suggest such an arrangement.

Rather, Van Dalfsen describes a filter configuration having two different sub-circuits corresponding to two different modes of operation, namely image expansion (i.e., interpolation) and image compression (i.e., decimation). Each sub-circuit includes registers arranged linearly. However, considering the first (upper) sub-circuit as one row and the second (lower) sub-circuit as another row of a logical array of registers, Van Dalfsen does not teach or suggest a mode in which the rows are coupled together to form a single linear shift register. Rather, the two sub-circuits operate substantially independently.

Accordingly, claims 1, 12, 18, 19 and 21 are believed to patentably define over Van Dalfsen.

Dependent claims 2-11, 13-17 and 20 are also believed to add novel and patentable subject matter to their respective independent claims. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 1-21 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Dated: May 25, 2004